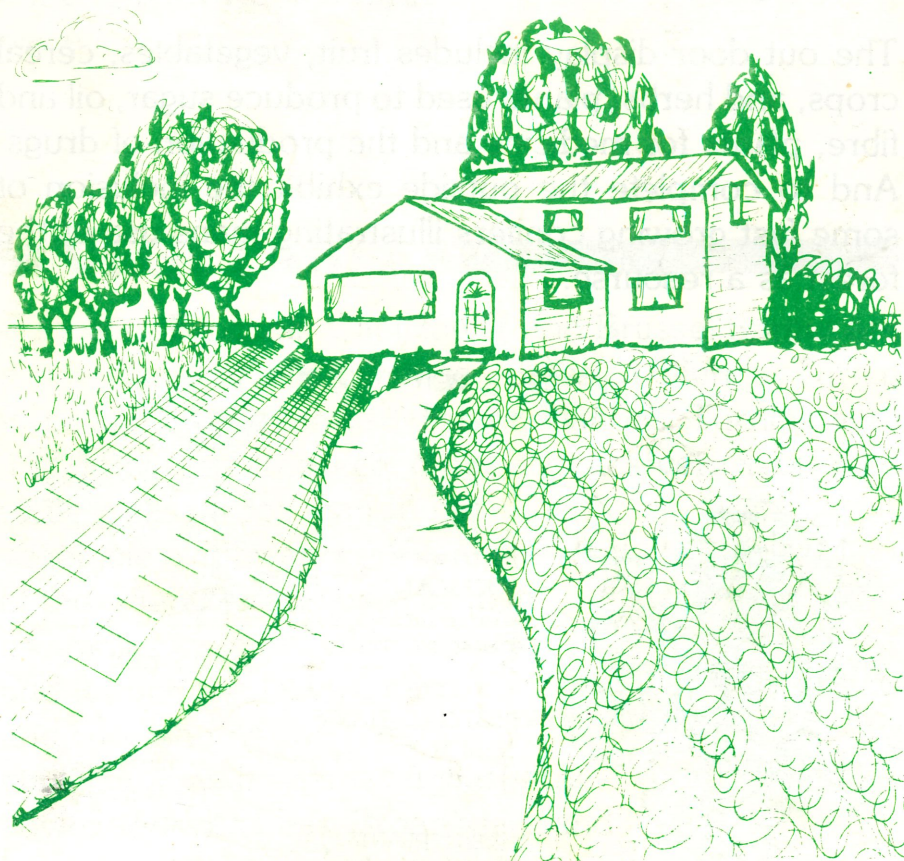

PLANTS & MAN

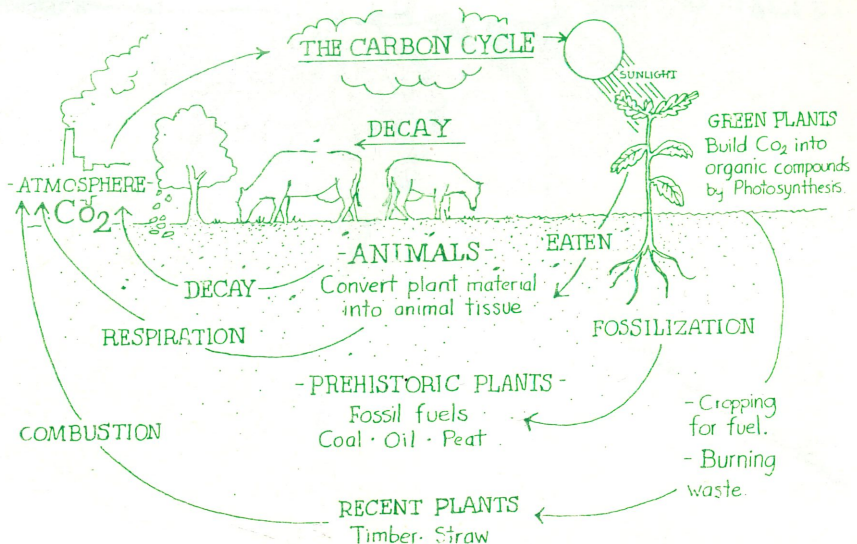
A LEARNING EXPERIENCE



PLANTS & MAN

The exhibit has been designed to show how man has adapted various characteristics of plants to his own advantage.

The out door display includes fruit, vegetables, cereal crops, and herbs, plants used to produce sugar, oil and fibre, plants for medicine and the production of drugs. And to complete the outside exhibit the inclusion of some fast growing conifers illustrating mans use of the forest as a resource.



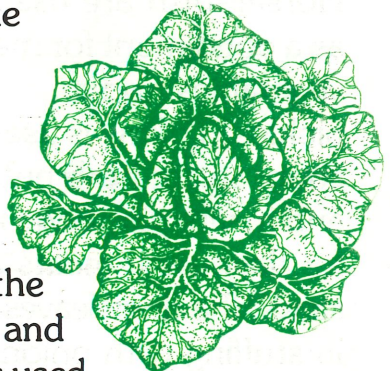
FRUIT

Strawberries and Currants grow wild in Britain, the leaves and fruit of the cultivated varieties are much larger. Fruit is one of the many ways plants disperse their seed. Many are eaten by animals passing through the body to start life in a different place.



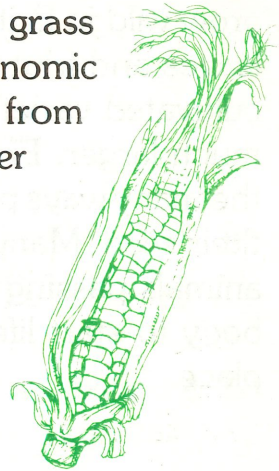
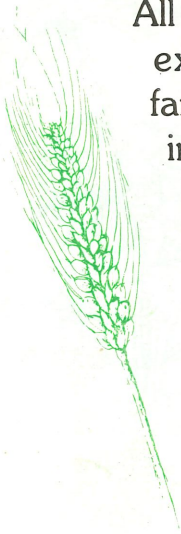
VEGETABLES

Cabbage, Broccoli, Cauliflower and Brussel Sprout are descendants of wild cabbage - *Brassica Olerica*. Turnip Rape and Swede are also distant relations. Turnips were first grown as cattle feed, other varieties were developed to be pleasant for man to eat. The vegetable exhibit shows examples of the different parts used by man. Examples include:- with cabbage and lettuce the leaves, carrot and radish it is the roots, cauliflower as its name suggests the flower and with Peas, Broadbeans and lentils it is the unripened seed that is used.



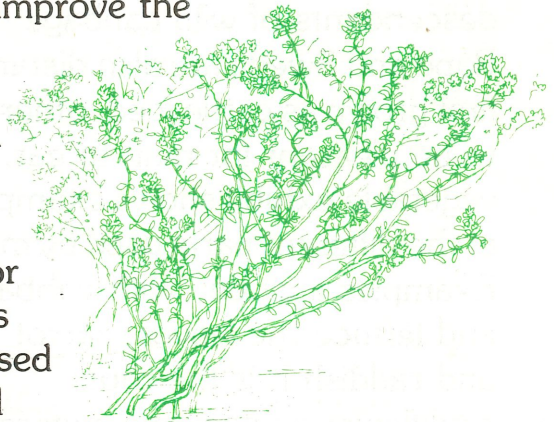
CEREALS

All the cereal crops included in the exhibit are members of the grass family, and are of great economic importance to man. Apart from food they provide fodder for our animals.



HERBS

Man has used herbs to improve the flavour of his food. The fresh root of Horseradish are used as a condiment for meat vegetables and in pickles. Thyme is used for soup, salad, herb butters and in vinegar. Sage is used for flavouring meats and stews, the dried leaves are used in stuffing with onions and to relieve dyspepsia.

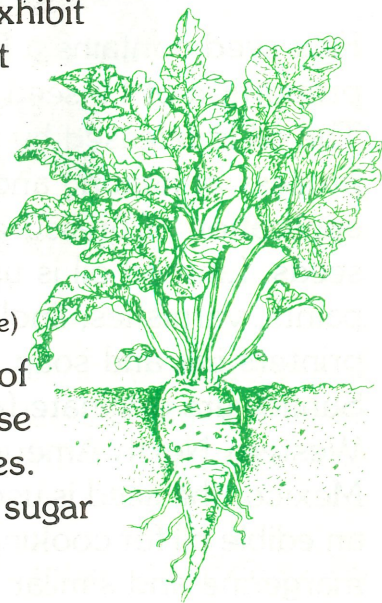


SUGAR

Contained within the outdoor exhibit are a number of 'beets' amongst them sugar beet. In temperate countries sugar beet is the principal source of sugar as the 'sugar cane' requires a much warmer climate.

(Sugar Cane can be found in the greenhouse)

Although the plant was known of before Christ, its commercial use has been realised in recent times. As can be seen from the exhibit sugar beet is related to the vegetable beetroot.

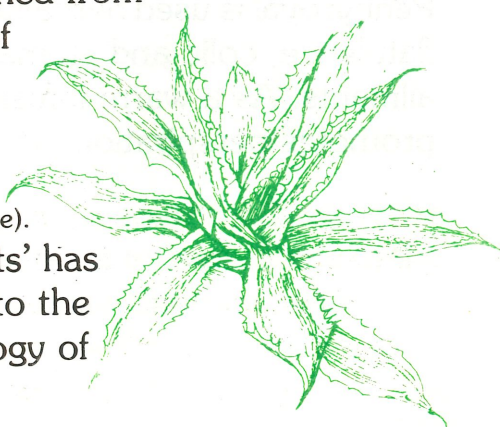


FIBRE

Flax yields from its stem a fine thread from which linen is produced. Flax is native to both Asia and Europe. Hemp produces a strong coarse fibre which is used to make rope and sailcloth. Sisal is obtained from the plant Agave, a native of Mexico and is used for making twine.

Included in the fibre plants is cotton (located in the greenhouse).

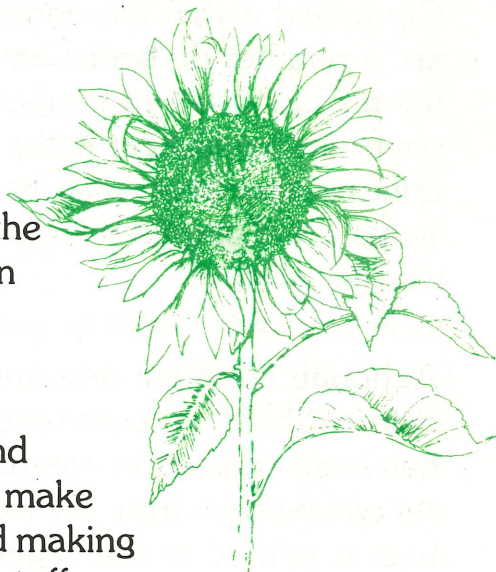
Demand for the 'fibre plants' has been greatly reduced due to the comparatively new technology of synthetic fibres.



OIL

Flax seed contains a high proportion of Linseed oil. The oil is released by a process of heating and application of pressure to the seeds. Linseed oil is used in paints, varnishes, linoleum, printers ink and soap.

Sunflowers originate from Western North America and Mexico, the seed is used to make an edible oil for cooking and making margarine and similar foodstuffs.



MEDICAL

Wild plants have always been used to treat illness and injury.

Pennyroyal is used herbally to alleviate flatulence, colic and stomach ailments. As a warm infusion it promotes perspiration.



PLANTS & MAN

A LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Created by the Horticultural Education Association and administered by the Merseyside Parks Training Centre the garden sets out to introduce the visitor to the role plants play in the life of man.

The garden is staffed from Monday to Friday by experienced staff who are able to interpret the garden section by section, introducing to school parties and interested groups the world of plants and their relevance to everyday life both past and present.

For further details contact Merseyside Parks Training Centre 'Plants and Man'.

051 727 8000 ext.326

or

051 724 2371 ext.240

The Indoor exhibit has information boards indicating the country of origin and how the plant is used. Some of the plants have been included for their amenity value.



International Garden Festival
LIVERPOOL '84

2nd May to 14th October

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